

REMARKS

Applicants hereby provisionally elect Group I, drawn to an apparatus and method for preparing a sample for PCR.

Applicants reserve the right to pursue the subject matter of the non-elected claims in one or more divisional applications.

CONCLUSION

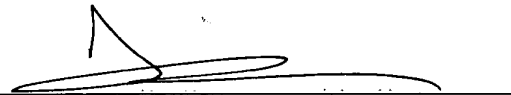
Applicants respectfully request examination on the merits of this application. Should there be any questions concerning this application, Examiner Bowers is invited to contact the undersigned at the number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

Date March 15, 2006

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By

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Amy M. Rocklin', is written over a horizontal line.

Amy M. Rocklin
Attorney for Applicant
Registration No. 47,033